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A
PROCLAMATION
declaring his
MAIESTIES
Pleasure concerning the dissol-
ving of the present Conuention
of Parliament.



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lent MAIESTIE. 1621.*

МЕДУ

ЗАГР

СОЛНЦЕВЫЕ

А

МОИ ТАМАЗОВЫЕ

СИЛЫ

ЗИГГЕЛАМ

СИЛЫ

A Proclamation
declaring his Majesties pleasure
concerning the dissolving of the
present Convention of
Parliament.



Let it be known, that the Assem-
bling, Cont-
rolling, and
Dissolving of
Parliaments,
be a Preroga-
tive so peculi-
arly belonging
to Our Im-
periall Crowne, and the times and
seasons thereof so absolutelie in
Our

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Our owne power, that wee neede
not graue account thereof unto any :
yet, according to Our continual cu-
stome, to make Our good Subjects
acquainted with the reasons of all
Our publike resolutions and acti-
ons, We have thought it expedient
at this time to declare, not onely
Our pleasure app[roval] resolution there-
in, grounded vpon mature delibe-
ration, with the aduise and vniforme
consent of Our whole Privie Coun-
cell; but therewith also to note some
especiall proceedings moouing Us
to this resolution: And that chieflie
to this end, that as God , so the
world may witnesse with Us, that
it was Our intent to haue made this
the happiest Parliament that ever
was in Our time : And that the
lettes and impediments thereof be-
ing discerned, all misunderstandings
and ieialousies might be remooued,
and all Our people may know and
beleeue, that wee are as farre from
imputing

3

imputing any of those ill accidents,
that haue happened in Parliament,
to any want or neglect of duty, or
good affection towards Us, by
them in generall, or by the greater
and better number of Parliament
men, as we are confident (the true
causes discouered) they wilbe farre
from imputing it to any default in
Us; there hauing in the beginning
of this late Assemblie passed grea-
ter and more infallible tokens of
loue and duty from Our Subjects
to Us their Soueraigne, and more
remarkable testimonies from Us
of Our Princely care and zeale of
their welfare, then haue beene in
any Parliament met in any former
Age.

This Parliament was by Us
called, as for making good and
profitable Lawes, so more especially,
in this time of miserable di-
straction throughout Christendome,
for the better settling of peace and

A 2 Religion,

Religion, and restoring Our Chi-
ldren to their ancient and lawfull
patrimony, whitch we attempted to
procure by peaceable treaty, at Our
owne excessive charge, thereby to
save and prevent the effusion of
Christian blood, the miserable effect
of warre, and dissencion; yet with
full purpose, if that succeeded not,
to recover it by the sword; and
therfore, as a necessary meane con-
ducing to those ends, the supply of
Our Treasures was to bee provi-
ded for.

This Parliament beginning in
January last, proceeded some mo-
neths with such harmonie betwene
Us and Our people, as cannot bee
paralleld by any former time: For
as the House of Commons at the
first, both in the manner of their sup-
plie, and otherwise, shewed greater
loue and more respect then ever any
House of Commons did to Us, or
(as wee thinke) to any King be-
fore

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fore Us : So Wee, vpon all these
complaints , haue afforded them
such memorabile and rare examples
of Justice, as many ages past can-
not shew the like ; Wherein, that
Wee preferred the Weale of Our
people before all particular respects,
the things themselves doe sufficien-
tly prooue , Our Justice being exten-
ded, not onely to persons of ordina-
ry ranke and qualite , but even to
the priuate Officer of Our King-
domme. And although, after their
first Recesse at Easter , wee found
that they misspent a great deale of
time, rather vpon the intlarging of
the limits of their Liberties , and
divers other curios , and bnyprofita-
ble things, then vpon the framing
and propounding of good and profit-
able Lawes : Yet Wee gaue them
time and scope for their Parliamen-
tary proceedings, and prolonged the
Sessio[n] to an unusual length , cor-
tinuing it vntill the eight and twen-
tieh

A 3. tieh

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tieth day of May, before wee signified Our purpose for their Recesse; and then vane declared what wee would make a Recesse on the fourth day of June next following, but onely for a time, and in such maner, as might bee without disturbance to array their busynesses in hand, expressing out of Our Grace (though we needed not) the causes of that Our purpose, which were the season of the yeere, vsually hot, and vnsit for great assemblies, Our Progresse approaching, the necessarie wee had to make vse of Our Councell attending in both houses, both to settle Our waightie affaires of State before wee went, and to attend Us when wee went Our Progresse, the disfurnishing of Our ordinary Courts of Justice so many Termes together, the long absence of Justices of Peace, and Deputy Lieutenants, whose presence was needfull for making and returning of musters,

37

musters, and for subordinate go-
vernement of the Commonwealth
therefor were appointed to adorne
the parliament on the fourth day
of June, giving that warring tonge
of them whiche that they shal sit
in order their busynesse, and pre-
pare their grevances, which were
promised both to heare and answer
before that messenger, for presenting
whereof wee appointed them a
time. This message graciouly in-
tended by vs, was not so well
entertained by some, who in that
time dispersed and spred their lea-
tousies vnto others, and thereby
occasions discontentment in the
house, for being adioyned without
passing of Billes, yet made not
their addresse to vs, as had beeue
meete, but desired a conference with
the Lords; and at that conference,
the nine and twentith day of May,
vnder colour of desiring to petition
vs for some further time, to perfect
and

and passe some speciall Bills , were
imboldened, not onely to dispute, but
to refel all the reasons that we had
givern for the adiournement, which
being made knownen vnto vs , we
againe signified Our pleasure to
both houses, that on the fourth day
of June the Parliament shoulde
rise , but we woulde then give Our
Royall assent to such billes, as were
or shoulde be ready and fit to be then
passed , continuing all other busi-
nesses in stads they were, by a speci-
all Act to bee framed for that pur-
pose.

The Lords with all duetie and
respect, submitted to Our resolution,
passed the Act, and sent it with spe-
ciall recommendation to the house
of Commons; but they neither read
it, nor proceeded with businesse, but
forgetting that the time was Ours
and not theirs, continued their dis-
contentment, as they pretended , for
being so soone dismissed. We though
it

it were strange to obserue such auersnesse for Our resoluing vpon such waighty reasons, that wherin wee needed not to bee measured by any other rule, but Our owne princely will; yet were contented to descend from Our owne Right, to alter Our resolution, and to continue the Session for a fornight more, wherein they might perfite such publique Billes, as were esteemed of most importance: for which purpose, We Our selfe came in person vnto the higher house of Parlia-
ment, and made offer thereof vnto them, which being in effect as much as the Commons had formerly desired, was no sooner offered, but yeelding thankes to Us, the said Com-
mons resolued the same day direct-
ly, contrary to their former desire,
to refuse it, and to accept Our first
Resolution of an adiournement; but
attending Us at Greenwich, presen-

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ted

ted no grieuances: This inconstan-
cie, as wee passed by with a gentle
admonition; so for the matter of grie-
uances, as well of England, as Ire-
land, we promised to take them into
Our owne care, though not presen-
ted to Us, and really performed the
same so farre forth, as time, and the
aduice of Our Councell of each
Kingdome could enable Us, as is
witnessed by Our severall Procla-
mations, published in both Realms,
as likewise in granting at the same
time those thre suites which were
proponed vnto Us by the Arch-Bis-
hop of Canterbury, at the request,
and in the name of both the houses:
But in conclusion the house of Com-
mons making it their choyse, wee
made a Recesse by adiournement of
the Parliament, the fourth day of
June; Though indeed we must doe
them this right, that at the said
Recessse, taking into their serious
con-

consideration the present estate of
Our children abroad, and the gene-
rall afflicted estate of the true Pro-
fessors of Religion in forraine parts,
they did With one vnaminous con-
sent, in the name of themselves, and
the whole body of the Kingdome,
make a most dutifull and solemnie
protestation, that if Our pious Eu-
deauours, by treatie to procure their
peace and safetie, shold not take
that good effect which was desired,
(in the treatie whereof, they hum-
bly besought Us, not to suffer any
long delay) then, vpon signification
of Our pleasure in Parliament, they
would be ready, to the vttermost of
their powers, both With liues and
fortunes to assist Us; so as that by
the diuine helpe of Almighty God,
We might be able to doe that by
Our sword, whiche by peaceable
courses shold not be done.

But during the time of this long
Recesse,

Recesse, hauing to Our great charges mediated with the Emperour, by the meanes of Our Embassadour, the Lord Digbie, and hauing found those hopes to fayle, whiche we had to preuaile by treaty, wee in confidence of the Assistance of Our people, thus freely promised and protested in Parliament, did instantly shorten the time of the Recesse, (whiche we had before appointed to continue vntill the eighth day of February,) and did reassemble Our Parliament, the twentieith day of Nouember last, and made knownen vnto them the true state and necessitie of Our Childerens affayres, declaring Our resolution vnto them, of taking vpon Vs the defence of Our Childerens patrimony, by way of Armes, since we could not compasse it by an amicable treaty; and therfore expected the fruit of that their declaration, whereby we were invited

invited vnto this course : wherein,
howbeit we are well satisfied of the
good inclination of the most part of
Our House of Commons, testified by
their ready assent to the speedy pay-
ment of a Subsidie , newly to bee
granted, yet vpon this occasion some
particular members of that House
tooke such inordinate liberty, not on-
ly to treat of Our high Preroga-
tives , and of sundry things , that
without Our speciall direction Were
no fit subiects to be treated of in Par-
liament; but also to speake with lesse
respect of forraigne Princes , Our
Allies, then Were fit for any Subiect
to doe of annoynted Kings , though
in enmity and hostility with Us.
And when, vpon this occasion, Wee
vsed some reprehension towardes
those miscarriages, requiring them
not to proceede but in such things as
Were within the capacity of that
House, according to the continuall cu-

Some of Our Predecessors, then by
the meanes of some euil affected and
discontented persons, such heat and
distemper was raysed in the House,
that albeit themselues had sued vnto
Us for a Session, and for a gene-
rall Pardon, vnto both whiche at
their earnest suit we assented, yet af-
ter this fire kindled, they rejected
both, and setting apart all busynesse
of consequence & waight (notwithstanding
Our admonition and ear-
nest pressing them to goe on) they
either late as silent, or spent the time
in disputing of Priviledges, descanc-
ting vpon the words and syllables
of Our Letters & messages, which
for better cleering of trueth, and sa-
tisfaction of all men, we are about
to publish in Print, so soone as possi-
bly we can. And although in Our
Answeare to their petition, wee gave
them full assurance that wee would
be as carefull of the preseruation of
their

their Priviledges, as of Our owne
Royall Prerogative; and in Our ex-
planation after sent vnto them by
Our Letters, Written to Our Se-
cretary, We told them that We ne-
ver meant to denie them any lawful
priviledges that ever that House en-
joyed in Our predecessours times;
and that Whatsoeuer priviledges or
liberties they enjoyed by any Law
or Statute, should ever bee inviola-
bly preserued by Us; and We hoped
Our posterity would imitate Our
footsteps therein; and Whatsoeuer
priviledges they enjoyed by long cu-
stome, and uncontrolled and lawful
Presidents, We would likewise be as
carefull to preserue them, and trans-
mit the care therof to Our posterity,
confessing Our selues in iustice to be
bound to maintaine them in their
Rights, and in grace, that We were
rather minded to increase, then in-
fringe any of them, if they should so
deserue

deserue at Our hands, which might
satissie any reasonable man, that we
Were farre from violating their pr-
uiledges. And although by Our
Letters written to their Speaker,
we aduised them to proceede, and
make this a Session, to the end, that
Our good & louing subiects might
haue some taste, aswell of Our grace
and goodness towards them, by Our
free pardon and good Lawes to bee
passed, as they had both by the great
and vnusuall examples of Justice
since this meeting, and the so many
eases and comforts giuen vnto them
by Proclamation. And although
we had giuen order for the Pardon
to goe on, and that in a more graci-
ous and liberall manner then hath
passed in many yeeres before, and
signified Our Willingnesse, that ra-
ther then time shoule bee misspent,
they might lay aside the thought
of the Subsidie, and goe on with an
Act

Act for continuance of Statutes,
and the generall Pardon ; yet all
this preuailed not to satisfie them,
either for their pretended Priviled-
ges , or to perswade them to pro-
ceed with Bills for the good of them-
selues, and those that sent them. But
as the Session and Pardon were
by them well desired at first , so were
they as ill rejected at the last ; and
notwithstanding the sinceritie of
Our protestations, not to invade
their Priviledges , yet by the per-
suasion of such as had beeene the
cause of all these distempers , they
fall to carue for themselves , and
pretending causelessly to bee occasio-
ned therento , in an vnseasonable
houre of the day , and a very thinne
House , contrary to their owne Cu-
stome in all matters of Waight , con-
clude , and enter a protestation for
their libertes , in such ambiguous
and generall wordes , as might serue

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for

for future times to inuade most of
Our inseparabla Rights and Pre-
rogatiues, annexed to Our Impe-
riall Crowne : Whereof not ouely
in the times of other Our Progeni-
tors, but in the blessed Raigne of
Our late Predecessor, that renow-
ned Queene ELIZABETH, wee
found Our Crowne actually posse-
sed; an usurpation that the Maiesty
of a King can by no meanes en-
dure. By all which may appeare,
that howsoever in the generall pro-
ceedings of that House, there are
many footsteps of loving and well
affected duetie to Us: yet some ill
tempered spirits haue sowed tares
among the corne, and thereby fru-
strated the hope of that plentifull
and good haruest; Which might
haue multiplyed the wealth and
welfare of this whole land; and by
their cunning diversions haue impos-
ed vpon Us a necessarie of discon-
tinuing

tinuing this present Parliament ;
Without putting vnto it the name
or period of a Session.

And therefore, Whereas the said
Assembly of Parliament was by
Our Commission adiourned vntill
the eight day of February now next
ensuing, wee, minding not to con-
tinue the same any longer, and ther-
fore not holding it fit to cause the
Prelates, Noblemen, and States
of this Our Realme, or the Knights,
Citizens and Burgesses of the same
Parliament to trauaile thereabout,
haue thought fit to signifie this Our
resolution, with the reasons there-
of vnto all Our Subjects, inhabi-
ting in all parts of this Realme,
willing and requiring the said Pre-
lates, Noblemen and States, and
also the said Knights, Citizens, and
Burgesses, and all others, to whom
in this case it shall appertaine, that
they forbear to attend at the day

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and place prefixed by the said adiournement; and in so doing, they are and shall bee hereby discharged thereof against Us. And wee doe hereby further declare, that the said Convention of Parliament, neither is, nor after the ceasing and breaking thereof shall bee, nor ought to bee esteemed, adiudged, or taken to be, or make any Session of Parliament.

And albeit wee are at this time enforced to breake off this Convention of Parliament: yet Our will and desire is, that all Our subiects should take notice, for auoyding of all sinister suspicions and iealousies, that Our intent and full resolution is, to gouerne Our people in the same manner, as Our Progenitors and Predecessours, Kings and Queenes of this Realme, of best gouernment, haue heretofore done; and that wee shall be carefull, both
in

in Our owne person , and by chargin
g Our Privie Counsell , Our
Judges, and other Our Ministers
in their severall places respectiuely,
to distribute true Justice and right
vnto all Our people ; and that w^ee
shall bee as glad to lay hold of the
first occasion in due and conuenient
time , whitch w^ee hope shall not bee
long , to Call and Assemble Our
Parliament, with confidente of the
true and hearty loue and affection
of Our subiects , as either w^ee , or
any of Our Progenitors haue beene
at any time heretofore.

Giuen at Our Pallace at Westmister,
the sixth day of Ianuary , in 'the
nineteenth yeere of Our Reigne
of Great Britaine , France , and
Ireland .

God sau^e the King .



L O N D O N ,

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